

Teaching and Learning News [June 2008, No. 2]

University News

Public Availability of Course Syllabi

A Senate Committee is planning to propose an amendment to Faculty Rule 3335-8-02 requiring that an operational syllabus for every course must be made publically available. An operational syllabus is a description of a course sufficient to inform students, colleagues, and administrators as to the learning objectives, topic coverage, events schedule, and evaluation scheme used in the course offering. The purpose is to help students make intelligent choices about courses to take, but this should also help librarians understand how we can best support learning goals of key courses in the undergraduate curriculum.

SEI Data Goes Public

Faculty who teach credit courses receive reports on how students perceive their effectiveness from the university's Student Evaluation of Instruction (SEI) service. Since SEI data are public records, the university has decided to make some of this data available. Vice Provost Martha Garland notes that scores of item #10 (overall rating) for all courses below 599 taught by permanent instructional staff will be reported on the Web. Courses must have at least 5 enrolled students to be included.

Libraries Committee Name Change

The Instruction and Outreach Committee has changed its name to the Teaching and Learning Committee, effective spring 2008, and has also revised its charge. The committee will:

- Encourage and facilitate development of new teaching and learning programs.
- Serve as a curriculum review committee to steer and support credit course proposals.
- Assess effectiveness of Libraries teaching endeavors.
- Provide professional development opportunities for Libraries faculty.

See the [committee web site](#) for more information.

Quick Facts – Spring 2008

Arts & Sciences credit courses taught by Libraries faculty during SP 08:

[Online research skills courses:](#)

ASC 121D	Karen Diaz
ASC 121D	Danny Dotson
ASC 122D	Nancy O'Hanlon

[Freshman seminars:](#)

ASC 137.15	Jose Diaz
ASC 137.16	Beth Kattelman
ASC 138.06	Leta Hendricks

Librarian [Course Enhancement Grant](#) participants during SP 08:

Arch 602	Jane McMaster
Edu T&L 460	Betsy Blankenship
English 727	Anne Fields, Geoff Smith
Geog 695	Steve Rogers

Omitted from the WI 08 listing:

Psych 597.03	Jennifer Kuehn
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Resources

New Book

"The great teachers of pre-industrial times, such as Aesop, Socrates, and Jesus were all primarily storytellers, not providers of information." A good story often begins with a dramatic question that "wins learners' attention, makes them think, and makes them care." To learn more about using stories in your teaching, see the new book by Anne Fields and Karen Diaz, *Fostering Community through Digital Storytelling* (Libraries Unlimited, 2008).

Reserve Learning Spaces Online

[Multimedia Production Space](#) (Sullivant)

[Learning Collaboration Studio](#) (SEL)